(b) whether any such move was stayed by the Supreme Court; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether awareness about AIDS and such other dreaded diseases forms part of course syllabi; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is an autonomous organisation, which adopts/adapts NCERT curriculum. It has decided to introduce a revised syllabi in class IX and class XI from the current academic year (2002-2003) and for the Class X/XII Examinations of the Board to be conducted in March 2004. However, the (NCERT), curriculum and text-books of Social Science, including History & Religion, and Hindi have been stayed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(c) The awareness of AIDS and other dreaded diseases forms a part of curriculum of science subjects at the secondary level.

Mid-Day Meal in Schools of Orissa

4753. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister **of** HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schools where free mid-day meals are given to students in Orissa;

(b) what is the contribution of the Centre to run such programme for wards of poor strata of society in the State; and

(c) what other programmes are proposed to be started for the benefits of wards of poor families in the State with Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Government of Orissa, cooked meals are being served under the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education, (popularly called Mid-Day Meal Programme) in all Government and Government aided primary schools in the rural areas of Koraput, Bolangir & Kalahandi (KBK)

districts (now reorganised into 8 districts namely Bolangir, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nawarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada and Sonepur) and of Boudh district, and Integrated Tribal Development Authority (ITDA) Blocks of other districts of the State. In other district and in urban areas of the aforesaid districts foodgrains are being distributed at the rate of 3 Kgs. per month subject to 80% attendance in the previous month. Under the programme, Central Government is providing foodgrains free of cost of States/UTs. Transportation charges are also being reimbursed to States Agencies.

(c) The Government of India has launched the Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to pursue the goal of universal elementary education in a mission mode with the objective of getting all children in the 6-14 age group in school, Education Guarantee Centre, Alternate School, 'Back to School' camp by 2003 and to bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010 etc.

Curtailing Expenditure on Higher/Technical Education

4754. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Universities are forced to curtail expenditure on higher and technical education due to financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether University Grants Commission has formulated any strategy for generation of own resources by the Universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (e) Availability of resources for higher education has not been